

FREEDOM!!!
“How to be Free in Christ” – pt.3
June 17, 2007

Reminder: Step one or issue one is to renounce all past or present involvement with occult practices, cult teachings and rituals, and non-Christian religions. This deals with counterfeit vs. real.

Step Two: We need to accept God’s truth in the innermost part of our being, whether we feel it is true or not. We need to believe it! This deals with deception vs. truth.

Psalm 32:2

“Blessed is the man

whose sin the Lord does not count against him

and in whose spirit is no deceit.”

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father,

I know that You want me to know the truth, believe the truth, speak the truth and live in accordance with the truth. Thank You that it is the truth that will set me free. In many ways I have been deceived by Satan, the Father of lies, and I have deceived myself as well.

Father, I pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, by virtue of His shed blood and Resurrection, asking You to rebuke all evil spirits that are deceiving me.

I have trusted in Jesus alone to save me, and so I am Your forgiven child. Therefore, since You accept me just as I am in Christ, I can be free to face my sin and not try to hide. I ask for the Holy Spirit to guide me into all truth. I ask You to “search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.” In the name of Jesus, who is the *truth*, amen.

Ways You Can Be Deceived By The World

- Believing that acquiring money and things will bring lasting happiness (Matt. 13:22; 1 Tim. 6:10)
- Believing that excessive food and alcohol can relieve my stress and make me happy (Prov. 20:1; 23:19-21)
- Believing that I can sin without any negative consequences (Heb. 3:12-13)
- Believing that unrighteous people who refuse to accept Christ go to heaven anyway (1 Cor. 6:9-11)
- Believing that I can read, see or listen to anything and not be corrupted (Prov. 4:23-27; 6:27-28; Matt. 5:29)

Ways You Deceive Yourself

- Hearing God’s Word but not doing what it says (Jam. 1:22)
- Saying that I have no sin (1 Jn. 1:8)
- Thinking I am something I’m really not (Gal. 6:3)
- Thinking I am wise in this worldly age (1 Cor. 3:18-19)
- Thinking I can be truly religious but not bridle my tongue (Jam. 1:26)

Ways You Wrongly Defend Yourself

- Denial of reality
- Fantasy
- Emotional insulation
- Regression
- Displaced anger
- Projection
- Rationalization
- Lying

Prayer: Lord, I confess that I have defended myself wrongly by _____.
Thank you for Your forgiveness. I now commit myself to trusting in You to defend and protect me. In Jesus’

name, amen.